



**WORCESTER**  
S T A T E  
**UNIVERSITY**

## **Finding Aid for the Worcester State University Apprenticeship Materials**

Created by Ross Griffiths, April 9, 2017  
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Archives and Special Collections  
Worcester State University Library

Worcester State University  
486 Chandler Street  
Worcester, MA 01602

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## **COLLECTION OVERVIEW**

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|--------------------|---|
| <b>Call Number</b> | WSU.0009  |
| <b>Repository</b>  | Worcester State University Archives (Worcester, MA)   |
| <b>Location</b>    | Learning Resource Center, L-328A  |
| <b>Title</b>       | Worcester State University Apprenticeship Materials   |
| <b>Date Range</b>  | 1875-1904   |
| <b>Extent</b>      | 1 linear foot (2 boxes)   |
| <b>Creator</b>     | Students enrolled in the State Normal School at Worcester, (now Worcester State University).  |
| <b>Language(s)</b> | English   |
| <b>Abstract</b>    | Descriptions of coursework, lectures, campus and town life, and classroom observations compiled by students and faculty as part of the school's apprenticeship program that placed Normal School students in public school classrooms in the city of Worcester. |

## **ACCESS AND USE INFORMATION**

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Physical access</b>         | Materials are available for use only in the Archives Reading Room (L-328A). Materials are fragile and must be handled with care. Users must handle materials carefully with clean hands. |
| <b>Copyright and ownership</b> | Researchers are responsible to obtain appropriate permissions before republishing materials under copyright.   |
| <b>Citation format</b>         | [Title/Year] Worcester State University Apprenticeship Materials. Archives and Special Collections, Worcester State University Library, Worcester State University.                      |

## ACQUISITION AND PROCESSING INFORMATION

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Accession Number</b>                        | Acc.Pre.2015.0055   |
| <b>Provenance</b>                              | Materials were deposited by person(s) unknown prior to 2015.  |
| <b>Processing information</b>                  | Collection processed in 2017 by Ross Griffiths, Archivist. Items were placed into acid-free containers and organized into series.   |
| <b>Biographical and historical information</b> | Diaries appear to have been compiled by groups of students and faculty as part of the State Normal School's Apprenticeship program. The history of these documents is unclear, so this may not represent an exhaustive collection of all such diaries created at the institution. |

## SCOPE AND CONTENT

Each diary volume contains entries by a variety of different students, often concluding with their initials. Some entries indicate these books were passed around by students who wrote entries and also read the entries written by others. The first diary (1875) may have belonged to Rebecca Jones, Director of the Apprenticeship program. Entries are added idiosyncratically with many weeks sometimes elapsing between. Entries detail coursework, topics of lectures, details about field trips, and other academic endeavors as well as recreational activities, observations of weather, reflections on campus life, and copies of favorite poems or prose by notable authors. Some entries detail historical events including an account of Worcester's 1876 Centennial 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade observed by students from the hilltop campus. Along with the initials of student contributors, these books include the names of faculty and guest lecturers and describe their itineraries. As a whole, the materials present both specific details of teaching and learning as well as a nuanced sense of campus life during Worcester State's first decades.

## ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged in two series.

### SERIES I

#### **Diaries, 1875-1904**

Includes seven volumes dating from 1875-1904. 1890s volumes are absent. The 1875 volume may have belonged to Rebecca Jones, Director of the Apprenticeship Program.

### SERIES II

#### **Related Materials, 1875-1900**

Includes records of the Apprenticeship program, Child Study records made by students from 1902-1903, and scrapbook of student Louise Maria Bray (graduated 1893) with a note indicating its reflection of Frederick Froebel's teaching methodology.

## ACCESS POINTS

Terms correspond to Library of Congress subject terms.

### **Organizations**

Worcester Normal School (Worcester, Mass)  
Worcester State College  
Worcester State Teachers College  
Worcester State University

### **Places**

Worcester (Mass)

### **General**

Massachusetts State College System  
Normal Schools  
Teachers Colleges—Massachusetts—History

## RELATED MATERIALS

| Call number | Title |
|-------------|-------|
|-------------|-------|

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| WSU.0001 | Worcester State University Course Catalogs        |
| WSU.0005 | Worcester State University Commencement Materials |

## **DESCRIPTIVE INVENTORY**

### **SERIES I                      Apprentice Diaries, 1875-1904**

| <b>Box/fldr</b> | <b>Title</b>       |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1.1             | Diary, 1875        |
| 1.2             | Diary, 1876 [v. 1] |
| 1.3             | Diary, 1876 [v.2]  |
| 1.4             | Diary, 1877        |
| 1.5             | Diary, 1878        |
| 1.6             | Diary, 1880        |
| 2.1             | Diary, 1903-1904   |

### **SERIES II                      Related Materials, 1875-1900**

| <b>Box/fldr</b> | <b>Title</b>                          |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2.2             | Apprentice program records, 1875-1889 |
| 2.3             | Child Study records, 1902-1903        |
| 2.4             | Scrapbook, Louisa Marie Bray, c. 1893 |

